



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 7, 2008

S. 1255

Indian Arts and Crafts Amendments Act of 2007

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 19, 2008

S. 1255 would allow any federal law enforcement officer to investigate the sale of counterfeit Indian art products, rather than only employees of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as under current law. Based on information from the Department of Justice (DOJ), CBO estimates that the cost of implementing S. 1255 would not be significant because it would not appreciably change the workload of federal law enforcement officers or DOJ attorneys who would prosecute the cases.

S. 1255 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 1255 also would modify the penalties for persons who market or sell counterfeit Indian arts and crafts. Under current law, the maximum penalties are the same for all offenders, regardless of the value of the goods. The bill would reduce the maximum penalties for offenders who market or sell counterfeit items priced at less than \$1,000. Criminal fines are recorded as revenues, deposited into the Crime Victims Fund, and later spent. CBO estimates that enacting S. 1255 could reduce the amount of revenues deposited into the fund and direct spending from the fund, but any such effects would be insignificant.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Leigh Angres and Jeffrey LaFave. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.